

Helping Reluctant Readers

- Keep on reading aloud to the child to keep interest and learning alive.
- Try books on tape. Reading along with a tape sometimes improves reading skill.
- Children's or teenagers' magazines may be more appealing than books.
- Computers motivate some children to read the screen. There are a lot of educational computer programs that are also fun. (Try the library!)
- Find easy reading material on the child's interests. There are now easy reading level books on almost everything. Biographies and other nonfiction books may "hook" some children. Try series books related to interests or favorite characters.
- Limit TV time but do NOT blame this on the lack of reading interest.
- The more children read, the better they get at reading. Combine reading with something the child enjoys. Just get the child to read!
- Some children have reading problems or reading disabilities. Do not let a reading problem overwhelm the child's whole life. If this happens, the child often develops other problems, it does not improve reading, and everybody loses, including the child.

Going to the library is a low-cost way to help your children's reading ability. It can also make your children's lives more interesting. Many libraries will issue library cards to children. Even if you don't want to borrow books, the library is an interesting place. As your children change and grow, you can use the library to look at and try out new kinds of books, magazines, and even computer programs. Many libraries also offer activities, programs, and events that will help make reading fun for your children. If reading is fun, children will read more, and if they read more, they will become better readers.

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